

THE STORY OF THE CTS

The Consolidated Translation Survey

The Consolidated Translation Survey, better known as ~~the CTS~~ the "CTS", is a small and unglamorous operation, the prime objective of which is to avoid duplicative translation of foreign language material into English.

Operated by Foreign Documents Division of the Office of Operations, and later under the Office of Central Reference, the CTS functioned significantly in carrying out the Central Intelligence Agency's mission in coordinating translation activities of the intelligence community.

Through FY 1968, in the nearly 20 years of its service, it is estimated that this operation has resulted in savings in the neighborhood of \$7 million to the U.S. Government. Reference to its index files has surfaced approximately 1,400,000 pages of foreign authorship proposed for translation as already available in English.

The above noted conservation of expense and effort is the tangible result of the CTS operation. There can be no solid computation of values realized through reference to its monthly published listings used by more than 600 recipients. It is also impossible to estimate time saved for analysts in acquisition of desired translations. Nor can a value figure be applied to the conserved efforts ~~efforts~~ of skilled translators which were diverted to undone translation tasks, not to the ^ereferences compiled of thousands of appropriate translations

for analysts seeking information from foreign sources for specific research projects.

Springing from a small 3x5 card file on a requirements officer's desk, the CTS developed into a well-respected tool for translation coordination with an index system referencing more than 400,000 translations by authors and sources.

~~with an index system providing more than
400,000 translations by authors and sources.~~

It should not be construed that the CTS constituted the entire exploitation/ translation coordination of Foreign Documents Division and its officers. For what may be termed "coordination at the source" was a consistent objective and highly successful activity of FDD.

The Subcommittee, later the Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications, set up in 1953 by NSCID-16 and chaired by the Chief, FDD, was highly instrumental in reducing possibilities of two or more intelligence agencies exploiting, translating, or reporting from the same foreign language sources. As noted in the FDD Annual Report for 1954-55:

The Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications, meeting biweekly ... proved to be one of the strongest coordination factors ever available to FDD in its operations with the CIA and the IAC.

... programs of the Division were revised through the Subcommittee for the elimination of features no longer desired or which were adequately covered by other sources.

A number of examples supporting this statement ~~were submitted~~ followed.

Vigorous counterpart liaison between working-level linguists and analysts, as well as management, ~~has~~ contributed greatly

greatly to reduction of large-scale, or broad duplication of foreign language effort. However, the single items, or ~~articles~~ articles, anything ^{longer than} ~~from~~ five to ~~500~~ pages, proposed for translation were the objects for scrutiny and reference on which the CTS zeroed-in.

In the years of its growth and development, the CTS increased its ~~sources~~ cooperative sources from the original first three (Army, Navy, State) noted in its initial publication to about 450, of which at least one hundred could be depended upon for consistent contribution.

That the responsibility for this index and ~~list~~ publication should be assigned to Foreign Documents Division ^{appears} ~~should be~~ self-evident as a function of the largest translation operation in the United States and perhaps the world, exclusive of the Soviet Union.

It was an operation so inherently part of the foreign publications exploitation mission, that Foreign Documents Division did not wait ~~for official approval~~ until 1949 for official approval of this assignment before it took action.

As early as the summer of 1947, when the then Foreign Document Branch was a component of the Office of Operations, Central Intelligence Group, liaison activity with other translation operations of the intelligence community and the government in general had been started in an attempt to exchange information concerning the translation projects completed, planned or in process by the various components of the government. Engaged in this ~~liaison~~ liaison were [redacted]

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[redacted] the last conincidentally, was to be responsible for the CTS operation during most of his career with the Agency.

Initial cooperation from this approach was by the Translation Section, Intelligence Division, US Army General Staff, which was the first to ~~supply~~ contribute monthly listings of ~~its~~ its projects on a regular schedule. [ID later elected to publish its listings, finally discontinuing this practice when it found that the CIA/CTS could be depended upon.] In the meanwhile, Records Section of Foreign Documents Branch had been accumulating a 3 x 5 card file containing bibliographic data relative to translation service requirements accepted by the Branch. This offered the requirements control officers at least a meager reference, mainly by author, to work which had been done or was scheduled for completion. By ~~autumn~~ autumn of 1948 a half-dozen components of Army, Navy, and Air Force were contributing listings, and liaison with other agencies for additional participation was promising.

Definite assignment of the coordination mission of the

Foreign Documents Branch might be interpreted in a 23 June 1948 memorandum from the Assistant Director for Operations to the Executive for Administration and Management on "Changes in Organization Chart of OO". Paragraph 3 in the statement of functions for FDB read:

"Coordinates with CIA offices and other government agencies in the continuous exploitation of foreign language material in order to meet established requirements."

A 3 September 1948 memorandum from the AD/O to Chief, FDB, restated the above.

~~Reply~~ Replying to this on 20 September 1948,

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Chief, FDB, explained that his organization was planning to carry out this function by "collecting, carding, crossfiling all information on translations anticipated, in progress or completed by government agencies cooperating" and this would also include the maintenance of a central file for the information of the Intelligence Advisory Committee (IAC) agencies. He also proposed the monthly publication of a "Consolidated Translation Survey" which would comprise a listing of all translations begun or completed during the month preceding publication.

The idea had progressed far enough at this time for the Editorial Section of FDB to draw up a "dummy" format to illustrate the proposed publication. This dummy, dated 9 August 1948 on the flyleaf and 15 September 1948 on the cover mockup, was subjected to OO editing and revision before

return to FDB. Most pertinent was the flyleaf "NOTE" of the proposed publication which stated:

"This survey is an attempt to coordinate the work of translation agencies. Its primary objective is to provide information through which duplication of effort will be eliminated. It also may serve as an accession list of translations for the use of authorized agencies interested in information of intelligence value...

"Information regarding material surveyed can be obtained directly from the central coordinating file of Foreign Documents Branch..."

It also listed six cooperating agencies besides CIA-- evidence of some success of FDB's early start for coordination. Ambitiously, its proposed listing of FDB items included a brief abstract of the translation for each entry. These contrasted with the references to translations from other agencies from which only bibliographic listings were received. This limitation on information received ~~from other agencies~~ ~~essentially indicated that no attempt at abstract presentation~~ from other agencies, plus a lack of professional abstracters eventually dictated that no attempt at abstract presentation would be attempted. [It was also feared, and later proven, that the preparation of abstracts for the volume of items received for listing would be too time consuming to ~~which~~ ensure most timely publication.]

All this preparation and planning resulted in ~~however~~ was something to think about for another 365 days. For although

STAT this might have signalled the inauguration of the CTS service, ~~as~~ such was not to be in 1948. The need for such coordination and protection against translation duplication was at that time involved also with proposals for a "central translation agency" and for the coordination of foreign document and foreign publications collection. However, the plan for the operation as laid down by memorandum and the dummy format for the publication were to prove substantial guidelines for opening the service a year later.

In November 1948, according to the "History of Foreign Documents Division 1946-1952," there were discussions with ICAPS (Interdepartmental Coordination and Planning Staff) relative to the possibility of establishing an ad hoc committee to study the proposal for a centralized translation service/. Leading to this was an AD/O memorandum to Chief, ICAPS, dated 29 October 1948, in which were outlined FDB feelings on such a proposal and describing the FDB ~~feelings~~ potential vis-a-vis the requirements and possible demands of the IAC agencies.

Conversations and conferences ensued with the central translation center concept appearing to hold the spotlight rather than an ~~any~~ approach by segregation of the separate problems to workable dimensions.

Exemplifying such conferences, ^{and} but ~~the~~ perhaps the one which really fertilized the CTS egg, was the 10 February 1949 "Symposium on Translations" held in the National Defense Building under the auspices of the Special Committee on Technical Information of the Research and Development Board. ✓

Representatives from all areas of government interested in translation and foreign language source material attended and expressed themselves generally as ~~for~~ favoring exchange of information concerning availability of source material; largely insisting that their respective activities would require their own translation services even if a centralized facility were established; ^{all} and ~~by a large majority~~ strongly endorsing a centralized clearinghouse for information on availability of translations completed and in process.

J.J. Bagnall, Chief, Foreign Documents Branch, represented CIA. Quoting the Symposium minutes he stated:

We are very much interested in translation activities outside of intelligence agencies. We are also interested in any attempt to coordinate such activities, for we are well aware of the extreme shortage of linguists, especially in certain languages. We are endeavoring to keep a record of the translations that are undertaken by the intelligence agencies in order to avoid duplication of effort."

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The general problem of translation coordination at what might be called "the source" -- those receiving and processing foreign language documents was not neglected ~~in the summation~~ by the Symposium, but pertinent to the ~~conception~~ of the CTS are the following excerpts from the minutes:

"The majority of those present favored a modest beginning, ^{such} as a central card file containing such information as the titles, authors, and location of translations, including those in preparation. The existence of such a ~~file~~ and ~~its~~ use by translation services should effectively prevent duplication of effort in the preparation of translations.... If the initial limited effort to record the existence and location of translations is successful, an expansion of the centralized service may be considered.

"It was suggested that it might be possible to solve the problem by having each agency send information concerning its Russian documents and translations to the Library of Congress for inclusion ~~in~~ its catalogue and monthly accession list..." This suggestion was dampened by the L of C representative on grounds that the suggested material was not compatible to that covered in the lists and that "the Library has neither the personnel ~~or~~ nor the funds..." He did, however, offer the part-time services of a member of his staff for setting up an experimental card file on available translations and those in preparation to possibly determine if such a file would prove useful.

The next month, the Director of Central Intelligence, Rear Adm. R.H. Hillenkoetter, addressed a memorandum to the Standing Committee of the Intelligence Advisory Committee (IAC), dated 16 March 1949, and referred to the [] 3 September 1948 memorandum on "Central Translation of Intelligence Material," and to an [] memorandum of 7 March 1949, concerning "Central Service and Coordination of Translation," the second of which he enclosed ~~the~~ a copy.

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While there is no reference or introductory information to clarify the available [thermofax] copy of the [] paper, it may well have stemmed from the findings of the Symposium.

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The [] memo concluded with ~~the~~ recommendation that the Committee approve the following:

Translations sections be maintained by individual agencies;

Translation work accomplished by such sections be coordinated by CIA;

A "Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Documents" be established to make recommendations to the IAC.

Admiral Hillenkoetter's memorandum, to confine it to the CTS, or coordination of translations subject, stated that it appeared

"that desirable coordination could be accomplished by CIA's maintaining a central translation file of intelligence material and disseminating periodically

a consolidated list of translations in process,

~~unclassified~~

completed, and available from each of the agencies."

Admiral Hillenkoetter thought that the Ad Hoc Committee on Translations and the Standing Committee of the IAC should give consideration to the recommendations of the ☐ enclosure "with a view towards the Ad Hoc Committee's" approval at an early meeting.

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This memorandum also suggested approval of the ☐ recommendation that the Committee on Translations be replaced by an "Ad Hoc Committee on Foreign Document Exploitation." Hillenkoetter's memorandum, written in the passive form and reading as though it was merely suggestive, might be considered a fine example of tact in those early days of attempting to ~~summarize~~ centrally coordinate intelligence activities amid the rivalries, jealousies, and fancied prerogatives of government departments. It produced action within a month.

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On 11 April 1949, the Translations Committee met for the last time, establishing as its successor the suggested Exploitation Committee. The new committee is recorded as meeting weekly through 25 July 1949 and appears to have, on 18 April 1949, immediately taken steps to study the coordination problem by designating a Subcommittee on the Coordination of Foreign Documents Translation.

On 25 April, a memorandum to the Director of Central Intelligence, subject "Document Translation," referred to the Admiral's memorandum and explained that the Director of Intelligence, General Staff, United States Army,

gence, General Staff United States Army; Director of Intelligence, U.S. Air Force, and the Director of Naval Intelligence "have agreed that a greater degree of centralization of translation effort is desirable" and that the logical place for this was ~~located~~ within the Central Intelligence Agency. The memorandum proposed that CIA perform the functions of

"a. Coordination of translation effort
by master index."

and subparagraphs b. and c. covered translation of intelligence interests, and translation of other intelligence material upon request. It was signed by Major Gen. A.R. Bolling, Deputy Director of Intelligence [GSUSA], for the three service directors at their request.

By 27 June 1949, the Subcommittee on Coordination reported to the Exploitation group and concluded with seven recommendations. These, in brief, called for

~~FDB/CIA~~

~~to~~

FDB/CIA to maintain a record of translations completed or in progress;

IAC agencies to notify FDB of the initiation or completion of all translations undertaken by them;

IAC agencies to undertake no translations without referring to FDB for assurance that they were not duplicative;

IAC agencies to provide FDB with a copy of all translations completed;

CIA to reproduce and distribute translations meeting requirements of other agencies;

"Translation" for the purposes of coordination to be defined as the verbatim rendition into English of texts over 200 words;

Foreign Documents Branch to issue at intervals a consolidated report of translations initiated or completed within the IAC.

The Subcommittee consisted of T.M. Nordbeck, Acquisition and Distribution Division, Department of State;

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Foreign Documents Branch, CIA.

It is interesting to note here the constraint imposed upon the proposed operation relative to the IAC. These were the formative times of centralized intelligence and most translations produced by the IAC agencies were classified, and the accepted idea being to safeguard divulgence of intelligence interest in the subject matter of such work.

At any rate, the Exploitation Committee, before its 25 July 1949 adjournment, arrived at the following conclusions:

- " a. The Central Intelligence Agency should assume responsibility for over-all coordination of exploitation of foreign language documents and to perform such exploitation centrally as may be necessary to meet the requirements of the IAC agencies.
- " b. A permanent Foreign Document Exploitation Committee should be established in order to draw up lists of publications required for centralized exploitation; to determine the priorities for exploitation of publications by subject matter and area; and in order to generally assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the exploitation program.
- " c. Each IAC member agency may retain, at its discretion, a translation and/or abstracting unit for the purpose of translation and/or abstracting special interest mater-

ial. The Director of Central Intelligence would be informed of such exploitation in order to prevent duplication of effort, and the results of this work would be made available to CIA upon request.

"d. A National Security Council Directive or such other instructions as may be considered appropriate should be ~~should-be~~ formulated embodying the recommendations outlined above. A draft of a National Security Council Directive is attached herewith."

[There would be no action on paragraphs b. and d. until March 1953.]

Reorganization of FDB in August 1949 established a Reports Division embracing the Records Section with requirements control and maintenance of the "document exploitation file" as complementary functions. The comparatively large clerical T/O of the new ~~mx~~ division as a whole afforded personnel for part, or odd-time, assignment to assist "Records" in maintenance of the "Dex" file. This flexibility was to prove advantageous over the long run.

Almost coincidental with the reorganization the component designations were reversed with "divisions" becoming "branches" of the Foreign Documents Division.

The mild invigoration of the Records Section' coordination ~~mx~~ effort was distinctly timely. Using only the accepted Information Report format, Foreign Documents Division issued its first "Consolidated Translation Survey for September 1949" as

Crediting the cooperation of ID, Department of Army, NRL, Department of Navy, and Department of State, the report listed 233 items, of which 179 were attributed to FDD. All but 29 of the items were "completed" and available. ~~XXXX~~ None of the 29 "in process" were identified as FDD projects.

On 28 October 1949, []

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STAT [] ~~addressed~~ addressed a memorandum for the Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination, and for the Chief, Management Staff, proposing that Foreign Documents ~~Division~~ Division "prepare for publication and dissemination to the IAC Agencies a regular monthly Consolidated Translation Survey" and describing its makeup. It noted that the proposed publication would be ^{issued} ~~by~~ ^{issued} under the Foreign Documents Division, [] and a flyleaf would credit Agencies participating in the coordination effort. It cited the need for the publication "both ^{as} ~~as~~ a reference work and as a medium ^{for} ~~for~~ the prevention of duplication of effort" as expressed by the ^I ~~A~~AC Agencies. #

Concurrences were signed by [] O/CD, on 2 November 1949, and by [] Management Staff, on 3 November 1949. A footnote amending each signature is each deserving of later comment.

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J.M. noted: "Believe ultimately we may find a more economical way of doing this job - possibly by machine methods. This proposal, however, seems unexceptionable to meet an urgent interim need."

J.D, stated: "Management would like to have a try at ~~financing~~
finding an easier way to produce in
near future."

Providing authority for Reports Branch to carry out its
part of the coordination function, Acting Chief J.J. Bagnall on
27 October 1949 issued an FDD Administrative Instruction on
"Collective Directives" stating that such Collection Directives
and direct requests should be received, checked for duplication,
and recorded by Reports Branch; "adequate record of action on
requests and CD's, completed or in process, shall be maintained
at all times by Reports Branch."

Reports Branch had again prepared for the ^{new} ~~proposed~~ pub-
lication by providing another rough mock-up which illustrated
the proposed cover, flyleaf, and an introductory page. [] The
reverse of the flyleaf carried a distribution list composed
of State, Army, Navy, Air Force, and CIA for a total of 101
copies, of which CIA was to receive 50.

With some editing of the introductory remarks and
format the new publication was "put on the street" as
Consolidated Translation Survey, No. 1/49. 23 November 1949,
"For October 1949". The classification was "SECRET" and it
was to be so published until 1959. The distribution was 104,
with the addition of AEC to the above listed. [As early as
April 1950 a monthly "Supplement" was initiated as "SECRET"-

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Four clericals chosen for the unit were those most experienced in the CTS work from their previous part-time assistance. After study and experiment, the filing system was simply standardized as purely alphabetical for all categories of the ~~index~~ index. Shunning of the conventional library numeric and decimal classification systems was intentional; there was and would be no time to train personnel in their use, nor to search and apply if they were used. And this decision was to pay off well in the long run; any clerk hired by the Agency could file ^(and retrieve) by alphabetically reference; even "summer only" employees were quickly usable.

Expansion of the CTS coverage ~~now was feasible~~ to non-IAC and non-government translation activities was now feasible. One of the initial ^{"outside"} sources to be exploited was the []

[] with which the [] had relations. After providing the Institute with ^{on its request} ~~sanitized~~ sanitized copies of scientific and technical Periodical Abstracts issued by FDD, Contact was permitted to microfilm

the [] index of ^{the} Special Library Association's translation collection. These were translations performed by or for some of the larger corporations and ~~academic~~ ^{of the United States.} academic institutions.

Collection by SLA had been started in 1946 but a great number of the translations antedated 1940. Carded and added to the file these references swelled the CTS Index by more than a thousand items. [The [] index followed a devious path in the course of time, passing to the Library of Congress for a brief period, thence to one or more universities before eventually

ending up at the ^{Chicago} ~~University of Chicago~~ University of Chicago Library.

With its operation firmed up in its own organization, continued development and expansion of the CTS is distinguished more in featured accomplishments and improvements in techniques and service than in chronological progress.

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-- 12 January 1952) had directed that Foreign Documents Division would maintain ~~the~~ a central index file of translations and publish a monthly listing of current additions to the file, but the mission was most strongly emphasized with the approval on 7 March 1953 of NSCID-16 which was regarded as FDD's first "charter" for exploitation of foreign language publications and the coordination of translation activity. This was later re-emphasized with the issuance of NSCID-2 with DCID 2/4, on 20 May 1958.

Agency analysts had early in its existence called upon ~~the~~ the CTS Index to assist in compiling lists of translations available on particular subjects as source material for research projects. These ~~22~~ "source surveys", or "subject runs" ~~as they were known to the CTS personnel, were often time-consuming to compile~~ but the service was considered part of the raison d'etre for the CTS even though secondary to ~~the~~ prevention of duplication. The ~~most~~ requests for surveys never totaled more than 104 in one year, the largest, and ~~actually~~ ^{over all} averaged about 40 per year. In 1964, because of a reduction in personnel from 10 at that ~~time~~ ^{time} to seven in the CTS ~~T/O~~ T/O, the subject index had to be abandoned. However, the survey requests were still honored after that on an "as possible" basis using the existing files with additional reference to the monthly published Surveys to retrieve the appropriate titles.

The need to service such subject runs more expeditiously was one of the initial reasons for investigating the possibility for automating the Index. Hopefully, as early as 1953 the FDD annual report ^{hopefully} listed as an objective the "projection of this operation [CTS] for the eventually use of machine-record methods." To establish a base for such possible automation, as well as to deposit a vital record copy of the file at Agency Archives, the CTS in 1953 established a serially numbered file of each item indexed. This file should make it unnecessary to resort to the working file should the CTS ever be processed into machine language. *[The "author file" also was periodically updated on microfilm for deposit and use at [redacted]]* STAT
However, from surveys initiated under the old ADP Staff ^{duration} until and through the ~~termination~~ of Project Chive in the Office of Central Reference, 1963 - 1966, none developed that automation could be applied satisfactorily or economically to this comparatively small operation.

With the probability of automation discouragingly remote, by 1959 FDD took action to at least modernize the index filing system and realign the physical equipment and working space of the CTS for smoother work-flow control and efficiency. Two "Rotofiles" were acquired and a secure area was constructed to completely accommodate ^{including the essential personnel;} ~~the operation~~ the operation; cumbersome safes were replaced with lightweight card-file cabinets. The more orderly file setup afforded thus ~~attributed~~ was attributed to a 50 percent reduction in overtime required to keep the service on top. With the 30 January 1961 move of FDD from [redacted] to the STAT
Matomic Building, 1717 H Street, N.W., four additional Rotofiles were added to the equipment, automation still being a distant thing.
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[At the time of this move, the CTS Unit was in operation three hours after its arrival in Matomic Building, a rather excellent achievement in organization considering that the Rotofiled indexes had to be removed and packaged for transportation and refiled at the new site.]

From the start, aggressive liaison by FDD officers had contributed greatly to the expansion of cooperation between The CTS and government agencies. By 1955-56 the increase in commercial, institutional, and industrial translation activities dictated that the Survey operation should be alert and acquisitive for any translations which could be acquired by the government, thus lessening the possibility that a government agency would forge ahead into ~~expensive translation~~ performing or contracting for expensive translations that were already available.

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assisted well in obtaining information for the industrial and academic areas. while the commercial translation firms made their wares known by direct mail notices or advertising and cataloging. The Special Libraries Association's "Translation Monthly", a listing of translations acquired by the SLA Translation Center, was also screened for items not previously covered by the CTS.

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Cooperation by and with AEC Division of Technical ~~Information~~
Information, Oak Ridge, Tenn., and ~~the~~ Air Force Foreign
Technology Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio,
developed greatly as the CTS expanded. Teletype communication
for transmitting listings and for servicing inquiries was
established in 1961, first using [redacted] communica-
tion, and later direct via receipt [redacted] Earlier, in 1959

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[redacted] provided the teletype route for quick exchange of trans-
lation information between FDD and US Army Command Reconnaissance
Activity Pacific in Tokyo. As the same time agreement was made
for
~~with~~ the Press Monitoring Unit, US Consulate General, Hong Kong,
to keep ~~the~~ CTS informed of its translations.

While a few organizations working with the Survey have
been identified thus far, there were numerous other excellent
supporters of the operation among these office of the Army
Chief of Staff Intelligence, National Institutes of Health,
Aeronautical Chart and Information Center, Army Map Service,
and National Aeronautical and Space Agency. The National
Science Foundation was an early contact returning support and
when in 1960 NSA assumed the responsibility for coordinating
the use of US counterpart funds ~~abroad~~ for translations
abroad it called upon the CTS to ensure that requested trans-
lations were not duplicative. This practice still continues
with the Department of Commerce handling the requests and
the ~~unavoidable~~ needless expenditure of thousands of
dollars has been prevented.

which were

Service to CTS consumers and cooperation with translation activities both in and out of government grew with the Survey's expansion and with the increasing awareness of its existence by potential users. As the sources for listing became more numerous the size of the monthly publication continued to expand until in the 1960's it averaged near 350 pages per month listing an average of 2,000 entries per month. In 1964, resort to the use of index card "shingling" for page makeup reduced the size by approximately 50 percent as well as cutting the makeup time for publication in half.

Suggestions for more sophisticated formatting of the publication were received numerously from time to time from the beginning of its dissemination. These involved requests for more detailed area and subject breakdowns; for a detailed subject index of each issuance; and for an accumulative author index. The possibility of applying the Intelligence Subject Code to each listed entry was also explored.

The availability of adequate and trained personnel, of course, militated against compliance with most of these requests. However, ~~in 1958 and attempt was made to compile an accumulative author index through the use of "Summer Only" employees. A start was made, but the summer ended too soon.~~ in 1958 and attempt was made to compile an accumulative author index through the use of "Summer Only" employees. A start was made, but the summer ended too soon.

The index was ~~announced~~ to apply only from January 1958 when the main and large issue of the "CTS" (differentiating from the classified supplements) ~~first~~ first was disseminated as "Unclassified". In July 1959, and monthly thereafter, the CTS carried an author index and, through use of Summer Only clerks and a considerable overtime, an accumulative author index of the

first 18 issues of the unclassified CTS was disseminated in January 1960. These indexes were enthusiastically received by the consumers.

[Not a part of the FDD/CTS effort, but of interest, was the fact^y that AEC had found the scientific and technical listings so useful in its research areas that in February 1952 it published for its own use an accumulative alphabetical author index of the scientific and technical entries for the first 24 issues of the "SECRET" CTS and continued similar compilations tri-monthly for some years thereafter.]

As "cover-to-cover" translations of Russian journals, largely scientific, increased in number through the enterprise of commercial translations^g houses, the CTS endeavored to cover the articles produced in its listings of items. By 1962, however, this was taxing the unit's capabilities. In an effort not only to maintain the cover^{to} but to improve it, the Table of Contents pages from the commercial translation publications were photographically reproduced in the CTS each month, this move also resulting in praise from those using the Survey.

From outside the intelligence community, and from outside government, there were many attempts by individuals, institutions, and corporations to be placed on the "subscription list" for the Survey, usually including, too, the request that all back copies be provided. Such ~~gamm~~ requests were generated usually by government contractors or consultants who had been made acquainted with the listings by their contracting agencies. FDD's practice was ^{to} the reply courteously to such inquiries by referring the requestor to their contract office, ~~referring~~

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At the beginning of 1958, the Office of Technical Services, later redesignated the Clearinghouse for Scientific and Technical Information, Department of Commerce, expanded its operations to include the indexing and announcing twice-monthly of all scientific and technical translations. The announcement journal, Technical Translations, (TT) ~~was to include~~ was to include abstracts of the listed items. ~~the~~

Since it was felt that the CTS and TT would be duplicative in the S & T field, Foreign Documents Division planned that by

1 January 1959, when the OTS operation was geared-up and publishing, publication of unclassified S & T listings would be discontinued by the CTS. Other than to avoid ^{any} duplicative listings this ^{also} would reduce the CTS monthly workload by about 40 percent, a workload which by this time averaged upwards of 3,000 new entries per month and which was requiring supplemental assistance and considerable overtime for the unit of four clerks.

objective

This ~~plan~~ was never to be achieved, however, because the Technical Translations operation never satisfactorily displayed that it could ~~satisfactorily~~ service the intelligence community. The first issue^d of Technical Translati^{on}ns was published 2 January 1959 and ~~is~~ semi-monthly thereafter until its demise 30 December 1967 when ~~the~~ another Clearinghouse journal took over announcement^{only} of "government-sponsored technical translations."


~~Through its operation~~ During its operation, however, the CTS cooperated ~~the~~ closely with the CFSTI /TT, initially providing it with index card copies of all current unclassified listings received by FDD. This practice was discontinued after eight months when CTS officers were informed that the CTS cards were not required by TT. Communication between the two operations was intimate, both referring to the other by telephone such inquiries not ~~requiring~~ answerable from their own files. The ~~OTS~~ SLA Translation Monthly had been discontinued in favor of TT, and the CTS continued its practice of screening the TT listings^{at it had the SLA}, finding on the average that more than 90 percent of the items had previously be announced in the FDD Survey. Those

which had not were indexed by the CTS but not published.


The CFST/TT activity is treated here at this length not only because of its close relation to the FDD/CTS but as an ~~appropriate~~ appropriate ending to this story.

In July 1966, start of Fiscal Year 1967, the economy pinch was loo^ming in government, and FDD, then a component of the Office of Central Reference, was facing a personnel reduction. CFSTI was similarly seeking ways of meeting a budget cut. Again the so-called duplicate listing of translations by the two organizations was targeted as a luxury to be eliminated to the benefit of both, ~~organizations~~. Negotiations developed, at the instigation of CFSTI, with the objective of merging the two operations under the auspices of the US Joint Publications Research Service at its Washington office.



Pros and cons of the proposal were discussed and debated for several months into December 1966 with no final action taken. The early months of 1967 found FDD preoccupied with its proposed transfer from OCR and assimilation  This became effective 1 March 1967. Thereafter the CFSTI merger proposal was considered ^{but} held dormant. On 31 December 1967, CFSTI terminated the Technical Translations operation.

Conclusion

The Consolidated Translation Survey has been continued  as a section of Reference Branch, Publications ^e

Division. Again, personnel reductions had required reassignment of three of its clerical personnel and the CTS ^{was} ~~was~~ left with a T/O of four, augmented by temporary help as the Branch workload permits.

It still processes more than 2,000 ~~entries~~ entries per month. More than 120,000 pages of potential duplication of translation were prevented in FY-1968. Monthly publication of the "FOUO" issue is maintained for a distribution of more than 600, and the bimonthly "CONFIDENTIAL" issue goes to more than 300 recipients. The few requests received for subject surveys are serviced within the limitations of time and personnel.
